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(Signature of person mailing correspondence) Mark A. Hixon			
(Typed name of person mailing correspondence)			

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: JOHANNES MENZEL	] ] Group Art Unit:
Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the DO/EO/US of PCT/EP2004/013491 filed 27 November 2004	] Examiner: ] ]
For: METHOD FOR DISPLACING ACID GAS CONSTITUENTS INSIDE A NATURAL GAS NETWORK	Attorney Docket 1-17399

May 26, 2006

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action and before examination, please amend the application being filed concurrently herewith under 35 U.S.C. 371 as follows: